



BOARD OF OPTOMETRY
2420 DEL PASO ROAD, SUITE 255
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95834
TEL: (916) 575-7170
www.optometry.ca.gov



FACT SHEET

THERAPEUTIC PHARMACEUTICAL AGENTS (TPA) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

An optometrist may become certified to use therapeutic pharmaceutical agents providing they meet the following requirements as defined by California Business & Professions Code §3041.3 and California Code of Regulations §1568 and submit a state application along with a \$25.00 application fee.

CATEGORY #1

If you are a licensed optometrist and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry prior to January 1, 1992, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(a)(1)-(5) are:

- Completion of an 80-hour TPA didactic course provided either by:
 - U.C. Berkeley School of Optometry
 - Southern California College School of Optometry
 - Recognized residency review committee
 - Out of state school as provided in CCR §1570
- Pass the examination at the conclusion of the TPA course.
- Pass the TMOD component of the NBEO exam administered after January 1, 1992.
- Complete 20 hours of self directed study in the treatment and management of ocular, systemic disease.
- Complete a 65-hour preceptorship service as defined in CCR §1567(d).

CATEGORY #2

If you are a licensed optometrist and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry after January 1, 1992 but before January 1, 1996, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(b)(1)-(2) are:

- Complete 20 hours of self directed study in the treatment and management of ocular, systemic disease.
- Complete a 65-hour preceptorship service as defined in CCR §1567(d).

CATEGORY #3

If you are an APPLICANT and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry after January 1, 1996, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(c)(1)-(3) are:

- Obtain a California optometrist license.
- Be certified by an accredited school of optometry that you are competent in the diagnosis, treatment, and management of ocular, systemic disease.
- Be certified by an accredited school of optometry that you have completed 10 hours of experience with an ophthalmologist

CATEGORY #4:

If you are licensed outside of California and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry before January 1, 1992, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(d)(1)-(6) are:

- Obtain a California optometrist license.
- Completion of an 80-hour TPA didactic course provided either by:
 - U.C. Berkeley School of Optometry
 - Southern California College School of Optometry
 - Recognized residency review committee
 - Out of state school as provided in CCR §1570
- Pass the examination at the conclusion of the TPA course.
- Pass the TMOD component of the NBEO exam.
- Complete 20 hours of self directed study in the treatment and management of ocular, systemic disease.
- Complete a 65-hour preceptorship service as defined in CCR §1567(d).

CATEGORY #5:

If you are licensed outside of California and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry after January 1, 1992 but prior to January 1, 1996, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(e)(1)-(3) are:

- Obtain a California optometrist license.
- Complete 20 hours of self directed study in the treatment and management of ocular, systemic disease.
- Complete a 65-hour preceptorship service as defined in CCR §1567(d).

CATEGORY #6:

If you are licensed in a state outside of California and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry prior to January 1, 1992 and have practiced in that state or on a reservation or a facility supported and maintained by the United States Government with a TPA license, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(f)(1)-(3) are:

- Obtain a California optometrist license.
- Pass the TMOD component of the NBEO administered after July 1, 1992.
- Complete a 65-hour preceptorship service as defined in CCR §1567(d).

CATEGORY #7:

If you are licensed in a state outside of California, and you graduated from an accredited school of optometry after January 1, 1992 but before January 1, 1996 and have practiced in that state or on a reservation or a facility supported and maintained by the United States Government with a TPA license, your TPA requirements according to CCR §1568(g)(1)-(2) are:

- Obtain a California optometrist license.
- Complete 20 hours of self directed study in the treatment and management of ocular, systemic disease.
- Complete a 65-hour preceptorship service as defined in CCR §1567(d).

You may call and request a form at (916) 575-7170) or go to the Board's web site at www.optometry.ca.gov, click on [Permits/Forms/ Applications](#), then click on [Application for Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents Certification](#).